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ABSTRACT

The Symposium on Population and Human Rights drew together 28 experts in various disciplines to formulate scientific opinion on the interrelationships between population and human rights and, more specifically, to provide inputs for the World Population Plan of Action. The symposium devoted its attention to the human rights standards which have a direct influence on the three main demographic variables of fertility, mortality, and migration. The symposium report contains a summary of the main conclusions reached during the week-long meeting. Areas of concensus for each of the demographic variables, including internal and international migration, are spelled out. Other sections present summaries of discussions on the implications of population trends for the formulation and exercise of human rights; on roles of the community, state, and other institutions in safeguarding and promoting human rights in the light of population trends; and on the role of international organizations in formulating human rights connected with population matters. Annexes contain the agenda, list of participants, and a list of technical and background papers. (Author/KSM)

UNITED NATIONS

WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

BUCHAREST, Romania
19-30 August 1974

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REPORT OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON POPULATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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I. AGENDA

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Symposium on Population and Human Rights was held at Amsterdam from 21 to 29 January 1974. It was the last of a series of four symposia held in preparation for the World Population Conference, 1974, as recommended by the Population Commission at its sixteenth session 1/ and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1672 (LII).

2. The 1974 Conference, as endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1484 (XLVIII) is being organized as a meeting of government representatives. It will differ from the World Population Conference, 1954, held at Rome, and the World Population Conference, 1965, held at Belgrade, which were technical meetings. Therefore a series of scientific activities were planned in preparation for the World Population Conference, 1974, to identify and clarify critical problem areas at the technical level.

3. Among these pre-Conference activities were four symposia on: population and development; population and the family; population, resources and environment; and population and human rights. These were technical meetings of experts participating in their personal capacity.

4. The Symposium on Population and Human Rights was organized by the Population Division in association with the Division of Human Rights and in collaboration with the Government of the Netherlands. The meeting was made possible through the financial assistance of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

5. The agenda adopted by the Symposium is reproduced in annex I. Twenty-eight experts in various disciplines, invited from the various regions of the world, attended the Symposium in their professional capacity. A list of participants is contained in annex II. Several scholars who were invited from developing countries, particularly those from Asia, were unfortunately unable to attend the Symposium.

6. As a basis for the discussions, participants were provided with technical papers specially commissioned for the Symposium and draft background papers prepared for the Conference. A list of documents is contained in annex III.

7. The Symposium was opened by the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, 1974, Mr. Antonio Carrillo-Flores. In his opening statement, he welcomed the participants and expressed the appreciation of the United Nations for the hospitality extended by the Government of the Netherlands. Addressing the meeting, he noted that although the determination of human rights relating to population and population policies in such fields as fertility, mortality, internal and international migrations was a complex and difficult task, it was

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3, para. 166.

also a very important one. He also stated that the conclusions which the Symposium would reach, as well as any differences which might arise, would be of great value to the representatives of Member States at the World Population Conference.

8. On behalf of the Government of the Netherlands, the Minister for Development Co-operation, Mr. J. D. Pronk, welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance that his Government attached to the Symposium as a preparation for the World Population Conference. It would be a meeting which would consider the population problem in the context of the promotion and implementation of civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights, the realization of which would be guided by the principle of equality, both between and within nations.

9. In her address the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Mrs. H. Sipilä, emphasized that the differences in the enjoyment of human rights between men and women in such fields as education, employment, private law and political rights could not be considered independently of the population problem and the high fertility rate. The promotion of equal rights and opportunities, while an objective in itself, was also essential for the success of family planning and the regulation of fertility.

10. The Director of the Population Division, Mr. Léon Tabah, emphasized the importance of the technical discussions at the Symposium both for the World Population Conference and the World Population Plan of Action. Referring to the major findings of the three previous symposia, he noted that they had shown a convergence of ideas to the effect that the immediate solution to population problems should be sought in fields other than population, without rejecting, however, population policies which were without doubt a factor in shaping the more distant future. He said that it would be against this background that this last Symposium before the World Population Conference would take up the questions of population and human rights, which affect the destiny of the individual and of society.

11. The Director of the Division of Human Rights, Mr. Marc Schreiber, in his address, underlined the importance of the simultaneous examination of the complex and delicate problems of population and human rights. Reviewing the different points of contact between population and human rights, he expressed his hope that the Symposium would contribute substantially to the development and integration of norms pertinent to the question of human rights and population.

12. Mr. Léon Tabah served as Director of the Symposium. Dr. D. J. van de Kaa, Director of the Netherlands Inter-university Demographic Institute (NIDI), The Hague, was Co-Director. Miss Kathleen M. Jupp, Co-ordinator, World Population Conference and World Population Year, 1974, Population Division, acted as Co-ordinator. Mr. J. A. L. Cooray, Advocate of the Supreme Court, Sri Lanka, was appointed General Rapporteur. Mr. C. A. van Peursen, Director of the Philosophy Institute, Leiden University, acted as Consultant.
Mr. Gustavo Perez-Ramirez, Population Division, acted as Technical Secretary.

Mr. J. van den Boomen, Population Division, and Mr. Maxime Tardu, Division of Human Rights, also serviced the meetings.

13. Owing to the nature and scope of the Symposium there were several chairmen and discussant-rapporteurs, one each for the several items of the agenda, as described below:

"Fertility and human rights"	- B. Afnan (Chairman) M. L. Ernst-Henrion (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"Mortality and human rights"	- K. Sekyiamah (Chairman) L. Baumgartner (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"Internal migration and human rights"	- C. Tomuschat (Chairman) P. O. Ohadike (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"International migration and human rights"	- C. B. O. Wennergren (Chairman) P. Laroque (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"The implication ... population trends for the formulation and exercise of human rights"	- G. Dib (Chairman) K. C. Pant (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"The roles of the community, the state and other institutions in safeguarding andppromoting human rights in the light of population trends"	- K. M'Baye (Chairman) H. Gros-Espiell (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"The role of international organizations in safeguarding and promoting human rights in the light of population trends"	- S. Y. Chikin (Chairman) R. N. Gardner (Discussant-Rapporteur)
"Formulation of concepts and other action required to safeguard and promote human rights in the light of population trends" (summary of conclusions)	- A. V. Toteff (Chairman) T. Ould-Daddah (Discussant-Rapporteur)

The last two days of the Symposium were devoted to the approval of the report, and Mr. A. Vanistendael chaired these meetings.

14. The general goal of the Symposium was to formulate for the World Population Conference expert scientific opinion on the interrelationships between population and human rights.

15. More specifically, the Symposium's goal was to provide inputs for the World Population Plan of Action. The Population Commission, in setting forth the terms of reference for the Symposium, considered "that the human rights to be discussed should not be confined to family rights, since the international instruments on human rights which were the object of consideration were related to the rights of individuals as well; they referred to civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. While jurists could be expected to play a distinct role in the Symposium, the interdisciplinary character of the meeting made it desirable that persons from other fields should also be included among the participants. Particular stress was placed upon the importance of the status of women as an issue in human rights. It was also mentioned that one of the questions to be discussed should be the right to family planning information and means taking into account the traditions, culture and other conditions prevailing in each country". 2/

16. The Symposium accordingly devoted its attention to the human rights standards which have a direct influence on the three main demographic variables, namely, fertility, mortality and migration. Although the Symposium did not reach a consensus on a number of issues that were discussed, there was nevertheless an area of general agreement. The following is a summary of the main conclusions reached during the Symposium.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8, para. 35.

I. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Basic considerations

The Symposium based its discussions on the following considerations:

17. Acknowledgement of the necessity and importance that every State have a population policy, aimed at improving the quality of life of the country's population. Such a policy must be regarded as an essential element in an integrated plan of action for economic and social development. While it must be recognized that certain States need measures to curb their rate of population growth, it must also be recognized that it is not possible for States or the international community to solve their present social and economic problems by relying exclusively on such measures.

18. Acknowledgement of the sovereignty of States in formulating their population policies with due regard for internationally accepted human rights.

19. Acknowledgement that while there is a world population problem and many countries share a community of interest, there are great differences among countries in their states of demographic evolution and levels of economic and social development. The question of human rights in the developing and developed countries was said to differ in some crucial respects because of great disparities in standards of living which also exist to some extent among the so-called marginal population in some industrial societies.

20. Acknowledgement of the impossibility of exercising fundamental human rights without the creation of adequate economic and social conditions for their enjoyment.

21. Reaffirmation of the value and importance of international human rights instruments, as they are essential to safeguard the life, liberty and dignity of the individual and to ensure the full development of his personality. All the human rights relating to population problems contained in international instruments will be implemented more fully and rapidly, if the struggle against under-development includes the promotion of an independent socio-economic policy and change of the internal structures of society, based on the principle of the dignity and worth of the human person.

Main conclusions

22. The Symposium reaffirmed the right of couples to determine the number and spacing of their children freely and responsibly, as stated in the Tehran Declaration, and the right of persons to have access to the relevant information, means and methods for the implementation of such decisions. The Symposium stressed, however, that a population policy should not be limited to matters affecting family formation, but should also deal with such matters as population distribution and international migration.

23. The Symposium recognized the importance of the right to procreate and drew attention to the necessity of defining the scope of this right as well as the right not to procreate. It was said that sex education and information should be made universally available and integrated with the education necessary to implement the right of the couple to determine the number and spacing of their children freely and responsibly. It was pointed out that in the case of children and young persons, care should be taken that such education be imparted under proper and qualified guidance and supervision.

24. Concerning the difficult and delicate problem of abortion, the Symposium discussed the various human rights aspects, particularly in relation to the right to life and to the right of the woman and family to decide freely on such matters as those relating to physical integrity and mental health. It was considered desirable that the State and the international community should try to reconcile the rights involved in this matter. Whatever solution may be adopted, a system of control designed to protect human rights and involving the participation of parents, doctors, judges, social workers and others would be required. Any recommendations relating to abortion should have the fullest regard to the needs and socio-cultural values of the various countries, and should take into consideration complete medical knowledge of the implications and consequences of abortion, both for the mother and for her future children.

25. The participants agreed that the advancement of women enabling them to control their own lives more fully and the promotion of their enjoyment of equal rights with men are important factors to be considered in the formulation and execution of population policies. The improvement in the legal position of women, who are becoming increasingly aware of their influence and destiny, may bring about considerable changes in the life of society, but in the absence of rights and opportunities in the field of labour and socio-economic activity, legal formulations are frequently empty words. The Symposium therefore considered it desirable that the necessary international instruments be adopted and national legislation be updated so that women's rights in the various aspects of life mentioned above would be supported by proper enforcement. It is essential to ensure to women full equality with men, especially equal access to education and employment, so that they will not be inclined to find fulfilment solely in motherhood.

26. The Symposium reaffirmed the importance of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health as recognized in United Nations instruments and the constitution of the World Health Organization. It was recommended that services to the whole population be expanded, and particularly the training of physicians and supporting staff, to reach people at the "grass-roots" level.

27. The Symposium also reaffirmed the right of everyone to adequate food and nutrition. It stressed in particular the necessity for the elimination of hunger and malnutrition as a general priority objective in the attainment of economic development and social justice. It was pointed out that in some countries agricultural development, particularly food production, needs to be speeded up by such means as land reform and the availability to developing countries of agricultural research and technology.

28. The Symposium also reaffirmed the right to life of populations threatened by hunger and of ethnic minorities threatened by the encroachment of so-called modernization.

29. The participants agreed on the need to remove obstacles to a desirable international outflow of people, capital and technology (including know-how) and resources (particularly food), as may be necessary for the establishment of a just international social order directed to the solutions of population problems, while having regard for human rights and respect for the sovereignty of States and the requirements of social progress and economic development.

30. Concerning internal migration, the Symposium recommended that States should promote adequate legal measures and set up practical machinery for the implementation of measures to ensure the exercise of migrants' rights. Local authorities may play an important role in this respect.

31. In view of the relation between the condition of rural areas and population questions, especially in relation to migration to cities and towns, the Symposium emphasized the need for social, economic and cultural development of such areas. Some participants considered that such development would also lead to a lowering of fertility rates in rural areas.

32. When examining international migration, the Symposium did not think it realistic in the present state of international affairs to suggest specific measures to enlarge the scope of international legislation in that field. It was noted, however, that the study of the situation in developing countries showed that the compelling interests of these countries might lead in certain circumstances to restrictions of the freedom to migrate across national boundaries, with full respect, however, for the relevant provisions in the universal declaration and the international instruments. With respect to international migration, the Symposium considered the "brain drain", which deprives the developing countries of some of their most technically qualified and useful citizens. While recognizing the difficult situation resulting for developing countries from such movement and the general need to slow down the "brain drain" in the interest of these countries, participants held different views as to the strategies which are, in the light of basic human rights, suitable and acceptable.

33. Concerning the rights of the migrants in the receiving countries, the international instruments showed important gaps which it was desirable to fill. It was deemed necessary that after a certain period of residence and work, any differential treatment between foreigners and nationals concerning employment or the choice of residence be reconsidered. It was suggested that consideration be given to the progressive equalization of the treatment between foreigners and nationals concerning access to professional training and any other form of education. In this connexion qualifications obtained in the home country should be given due weight. It was felt that the right of the migrants to be reunited with their families should be implemented. This implies an obligation by the Government of the host country to provide the immigrant family with adequate living conditions, especially as regards housing.

34. The Symposium called attention to the link existing between the rights of migrants and the settlement of tensions between migrants and nationals. The emigrant's country and the host country should co-operate in helping the migrant to adjust to the new society while at the same time retaining as many elements as possible of his national culture.

35. It was considered necessary to make adequate provisions for dealing with the migrant's vulnerability regarding the protection of his rights at national and international levels. At the national level, it appeared desirable to provide for representation for the immigrant in his new locality and new enterprises. Since bilateral negotiations between immigrant and emigrant countries might reflect economic and political concerns to the prejudice of the human approach, it was suggested that a suitable international body be available to lend its good offices as a third party in these negotiations, with a view to ensuring that the human rights of migrants are safeguarded.

36. It was considered that prior education of migrants in the culture of the host country, as well as a corresponding education of the people of the host country, could reduce prejudices and help the immigrants to exercise their rights effectively.

37. The Symposium recalled the right of individuals and groups to participate actively in the elaboration as well as in the implementation of population policies in the context of development policies. It emphasized the necessity of imparting civic and political education to assist individuals to understand population problems and motivate them to act in furtherance of the welfare of the community.

38. On the other hand, the Symposium emphasized the need for the active popular participation of all elements of society, individually and through associations, in the formulation and implementation of population policies, especially those affecting human rights and the general economic, social, cultural and political life of their countries. It was also considered essential to promote the role of associations such as labour unions, women's groups and religious and cultural and humanitarian organizations in speeding up the development of general awareness of population problems and other relations to human rights.

39. Concerning the role of the State, it was recognized that Governments should exercise their authority as regards population and human rights through various channels, especially through voluntary organizations oriented towards information and education in the field of demographic policy. State action may also be exercised directly through legislation and regulation aimed at influencing population trends, with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as defined in international instruments. In this respect, it was considered important for the population to have easy access to effective legal remedies.

40. A large measure of agreement was reached on the right and duty of States to ensure that the population, at all levels and without discrimination, be aware of the means to regulate fertility and have access to such means and services. It was emphasized by many participants that the means offered should be socially and culturally acceptable. Without adequate information and without effective

access to means of contraception, couples could not exercise with full responsibility their right to decide on the number and spacing of their children.

41. The Symposium felt that the State had considerable leeway in implementing a family planning policy through education, instruction and persuasion and that such measures were preferable to coercion.

42. It was none the less stated that population problems in many developing countries were so acute that harsh alternatives might have to be considered for the implementation of policies, necessitating intervention by the State. It was, however, agreed that the right to decide the family size freely and responsibly ruled out duress or coercion on the part of the State. Moreover, in the application of family planning measures, there should be no discrimination against any particular group in the community. Couples, in determining the size of their families, should take fully into account the interests of the children and the general welfare of the community, as well as the requirements of economic and social development in the light of current population trends.

43. Aware of the complexity of international relations; that the policies of one country might affect other countries; and that human rights and population questions were linked with environment problems as well as with the excessive and irrational use of the capital represented by the world's non-renewable natural resources, the Symposium recommended that interdisciplinary research be developed at the national and international levels, and that co-ordination be strengthened among all those involved in economic and social development and population planning and human rights, such as economists, sociologists, demographers, jurists, doctors, planners and civil servants. Due regard should be given to the involvement of government planners in the implementation of such interdisciplinary research at the national level.

44. At the international level, attention was drawn to the need for the expansion of genuine development assistance, greater international solidarity, the transfer of technology and capital to developing countries and a more equitable regulation of international trade. The results of negotiations at the various international conferences being held on political matters, such as disarmament, and on socio-economic problems will have an important impact on demographic trends in connexion with the formulation and implementation of human rights.

45. It was recommended that all international and regional agencies concerned, primarily those which are competent in the field of human rights and in population matters, should intensify their efforts and strengthen their co-ordination in order to carry out, in particular, the following functions:

(a) Collection and dissemination of information concerning human rights in relation to population matters;

(b) The offer of assistance for the training of qualified personnel, which should include imparting to such personnel a knowledge and awareness of human rights standards;

(c) In view of the scattered formulation of human rights relating to population problems, the preparation of studies aiming at the clarification and systematization of such rights, as well as at the effective implementation of existing human rights instruments in relation to population problems.

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II. DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

A. FERTILITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

46. It was noted that in recent times and especially in the last two decades, the continuing high (and sometimes rising) fertility in many parts of the world, and the control of mortality, especially of infant mortality, has presented the prospect of almost doubling the world's population by the year 2000. In fact, by the end of the century, the total world population will be nearly 6.5 thousand million people, which contrasts with a population at the beginning of this century of 1.5 thousand million and one of 3.8 thousand million today.

47. It was further noted that despite some diversity among particular regions and individual countries, the differentiation between more developed and less developed regions is very sharp when expressed in terms of the crude birth rate, and that the same observation can be made in terms of more refined measures. The birth rate of less developed regions was nearly double that of more developed regions in the 1930s and 1950s, and the gap has continued to widen. In the more developed regions, reliable data show a gradual decline in the average birth rate, but it must be pointed out that trends differ among particular regions, with marked fluctuations in some. Most recently there has been a tendency for birth rates in more developed regions and countries to converge more closely towards a fairly low average. In the more developed regions, an average woman now bears between 2 and 3 children, while in the less developed ones she gives birth to between 5 and 7 children.

48. In order to evaluate fully what underlies this phenomenon, it was recognized by the participants that there is an interrelation between population growth on the one hand, and economic and social development on the other, and that the increasing rate of population growth was one of the factors which made it difficult to accomplish goals of economic and social advancement and full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

49. The Symposium took as a basis for its discussion of the human rights aspects of fertility the series of relevant standards established in international instruments. Although the right to procreate was not included as such in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or in the Covenants on Human Rights, participants were generally of the view that it was implied in the right of men and women to marry and to found a family which is recognized, inter alia, in article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

50. The Symposium recalled that the United Nations General Assembly, while recognizing the sovereignty of nations in the planning and implementation of their own demographic policies, introduced the principle that each family must be able to determine freely the number of its children (General Assembly resolution 2211 (XXI)).

51. It was also recalled that two years later, in 1968 at Tehran, the International Conference on Human Rights expressly stressed the existence of a link between population growth and human rights (General Assembly resolution 2442 (XXIII)). In its resolution XVIII (12 May 1968), the Conference recognized that if population growth in some areas followed a more moderate pace, it would enhance the conditions for offering greater opportunities for the enjoyment of human rights and the improvement of living conditions for each person.

52. It was further recalled that the International Conference on Human Rights considered that couples had a basic human right to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children, and also a right to adequate education and information in this respect.

53. The Symposium noted that resolution XVIII of the International Conference on Human Rights made the following changes from provisions in General Assembly resolution 2211 (XXI): the right of each family to determine the number of its members was raised to a fundamental right; the word "family" was replaced by the word "couple"; and the right to information and education in the field of family planning was expressly laid down as a corollary of the right to decide on the number and spacing of children.

54. A suggestion was made that the provision existing in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant should be made more comprehensively by supplementary provisions which might set out new rights, possibly including a more explicit mention of the right to procreation. Some participants were of the view that the world situation had changed to a large extent since the Universal Declaration was adopted in 1948. According to some participants, one of the difficulties encountered was insufficient co-ordination between various United Nations bodies, which resulted in a certain gap between the instruments relating to development and those dealing with human rights.

55. The Symposium saw a need for some clarification and systematization of all provisions relating to human rights as they affect fertility in instruments dealing with the right to procreation, in order to define more precisely the essence and limitations of the relevant rights.

56. The majority of the participants of the Symposium expressed the view that in matters of family planning the final decision should lie with parents rather than with the State. Some participants referred to the Declaration on Social Progress and Development of 1969, which states that the right to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of births is an "exclusive right" of parents (General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV)). This instrument explicitly recommended not only the dissemination of the necessary knowledge, but also of the means to render the exercise of this right effective.

57. It was stressed by some participants that the dissemination of family planning information should be carried out in the context of an understanding and sensitive approach to social customs and cultural beliefs of the people, if it is to be successful. Popular participation at the "grass-roots" level on the

part of men and women could have considerable impact on the solution of demographic problems as they apply to the general welfare of the community. It was also necessary that family planning work should be integrated into the overall plan of social and economic development and particularly into maternal and child health services.

58. The couple's responsibility towards the child was stated as stemming directly from the rights of the child as recognized in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child: in particular, the right to parental love, education, health, well-being and protection against all forms of cruelty and exploitation. The view was expressed that if parents were unable to give to their children what was essential to their physical, emotional, intellectual and moral development, they had behaved in an irresponsible way by procreating them. It was said, on the other hand, that such an interpretation of the responsibility of parents towards their children would lead to the poor being prevented from procreation and would amount to socio-economic discrimination.

59. It was also said that, in the field of procreation, the question of the weight to be accorded, respectively, to the opinion of the man, the woman, the couple or the family as a whole was a complex one, which required further study as part of the elucidation of the concept of "responsibility" enunciated in resolution XVIII of the International Conference on Human Rights (Tehran, 1968). Several participants believed that where there was disagreement there were strong grounds for leaving the decision to procreate or not to procreate in the last resort to the woman because of her predominant biological role and the health hazards which she might experience in procreation.

60. Attention was drawn by several speakers to the value placed on fertility in some societies where it strengthens those family ties which form the basis of the security of the members of the extended family.

61. Persons entrusted with the functions of education and information in the field of family planning should take account of the above concept in traditional societies while attempting to make couples understand that the common interest requires that they should control their rates of fertility. It seemed preferable in the rural areas to elicit the active co-operation of those who naturally exert an influence in the community as being those most likely to influence attitudes towards family size.

62. The question of whether the right to procreate exists also out of wedlock was answered affirmatively by several participants on the basis of such resolutions of the United Nations as the Programme of Concerted International Action for the Advancement of Women (General Assembly resolution 2716 (XXV)). However, some participants qualified that view on the ground that the child had a right to paternal presence and care as a prerequisite of his harmonious psychological development. It was observed that recognition of the right to procreate did not place anyone under an obligation to do so. Some participants expressed the view that it was necessary to express this right not to procreate more explicitly.

63. It was the view of the Symposium that an obligation exists to care for the child of an unwanted pregnancy. It was also the view of some participants that unmarried women such as workers or young students should be protected from unwanted pregnancies.

64. The influence of legislation on fertility was stressed by many participants: for example, raising the minimum age for marriage, registration of marriage, restriction of child marriages and betrothal of young girls before puberty, minimum working age and age requirements for compulsory education can all affect fertility. Some participants said, however, that the impact of such laws on population trends was difficult to assess, and that hasty generalizations should be avoided.

65. It was generally believed that equality under the law was one of the prerequisites for free and responsible decision-making in all fields including the planning of family size. Many studies show that women would prefer fewer children than they actually have if they had a choice. Birth rates are very low in all countries in which the law provides for equal rights and responsibilities for men and women and where conditions are otherwise favourable for independent decision-making.

66. It was further noted that marked differences persist between men and women in the enjoyment of various human rights. These were to a great extent caused, it was said, by economic, social and cultural factors that determine sex roles and lead to discrimination against women. In many societies women are still viewed only as dependants on their husbands and are not considered in need of the education, training and access to economic opportunities normally provided for men. Equal rights of women to education, health and well-being and to the development of their personalities through education was stressed by many participants. Unpaid work at home, early marriages and early child-bearing, often decided by parents and husbands, deprive them of other opportunities, and the only roles remaining to them are those of wife and mother whose prestige grows with the number of her children. On the other hand, the implementation of women's rights and participation of women in the life of the community have a wholesome impact on the exercise of their right in determining the size of their families.

67. Because of the correlation between women's education, gainful occupation, access to health services, and legal and factual position in the family and society on the one hand, and family size on the other, it was not surprising that high birth rates are normally found in societies where women lack educational opportunities and hence other options than a role as a mother.

68. Participation in the political, social and cultural life of the society give women alternative roles; they do not thereafter derive their identity and value from their roles as mothers of large families. Where women participate in decision-making in a society, they often become a strong force for social change. Their impact is shown especially in areas of education, employment and the family, including questions of health, maternity and child care.

69. It was suggested by a few participants that the developed countries be urged to achieve a zero rate of population growth. The majority of the participants did not agree with this suggestion, stating that the attitude of each country in respect to population growth is necessarily dictated by the economic and social situation prevailing in that country, and that in a developed country the betterment of the situation of the poor and aged might necessitate population growth. Some other participants, on the other hand, stated that certain developed countries might find it beneficial to have a period of population decline for the well-being of their populations in view of the high rate of consumption of natural resources in those countries.

B. MORTALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

70. The Symposium considered the interrelationship between morbidity, mortality and the exercise of basic human rights to life, adequate food, enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and necessary medical care. 3/

71. High morbidity and death rates, malnutrition, starvation and inadequate health services were considered as obstacles to sustained development and adequate fulfilment of specific human rights.

72. It was noted that in many areas of the world, a reduction in the death rate following the expanded application of modern public health measures and improvement of living conditions unaccompanied by a corresponding reduction of the rate of fertility, has resulted in a sharp increase of their rates of population growth with diverse economic, social and cultural effects. It was further noted that differences still persist among countries at different stages of economic, social and political development; that there were also differences in this respect between urban and rural populations, among social classes, ethnic groups and the sexes; that infant mortality was still high among poor populations (about 140 per thousand as an average in developing countries against 27 per thousand in more developed regions).

73. It was considered a matter for concern that expectation of life at birth (which is a better index of national well-being than mortality rates) in developing countries still lags far behind the average of the more developed ones.

74. It was further noted that levels and patterns of food consumption are also different among countries at different levels of development and culture (with a preponderance of foods of low nutritional value among people who are deficient in the consumption of proteins), and that starvation and malnutrition are still

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3/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, articles 3 and 25; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, articles 11 and 12 (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

contributing causes of morbidity and mortality for millions of people in the world.

75. The participants also felt that health services were still inaccessible to large segments of people and that the provision of free health services to the whole population envisaged in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development is still far from being a reality in the majority of the countries of the world.

76. Difficulty was encountered in the discussion with regard to the question of when human life begins. Some participants said that it was questionable whether real and meaningful human existence begins before approximately 4 to 6 weeks after fertilization. Intervention before that time might be classified as contraceptive rather than distinctly abortifacient.

77. Several participants took the view that there could be a conflict between the rights of the pregnant woman and those of the child to be born. These participants felt that a balance must be found between the child's right to life on the one hand, and the protection of the woman and the family on the other. Some participants considered that if the birth was detrimental to the mother or the family, a balance could be reached by considering abortion as justifiable in cases where: (a) the life or health of the mother is endangered; (b) the pregnancy is the result of rape; (c) there is a high risk that the child will be born physically or mentally abnormal thus compromising the equilibrium of the family; (d) the mother or the family are in such a psychological, social or material situation that the birth would jeopardize the existence of the family. This means that freedom of abortion would not be recognized in general and absolute terms. It was also said that in any case a system of control would be required involving parents, doctors, judges and social workers.

78. Some participants stated that abortion had been practised for ages and that it was a reality which could not be ignored. One of the participants maintained that restrictive abortion laws were created in the Western world and, in his opinion, spread throughout the world by colonialism. Others contested this statement.

79. Some participants were of the view that it was premature to formulate international norms with regard to abortion. Action could be taken at national or local levels. The position to be adopted depends on many factors, particularly those of humanitarian character. Care must be taken so that in any event cultural and national groups are not discriminated against. The adverse effects of repeated abortions on the health of the mother and health status of her unborn children were also mentioned as matters for concern.

80. There was a consensus that those countries which decided to legalize abortion should so formulate their laws as to take into consideration full medical knowledge of the implications and consequences of abortion, both for the mother and her future children. The problem was raised, with some anxiety, of the negative effects of abortions, particularly repeated abortions, on the health of the mother and the health of as yet unborn children.

81. It was pointed out that even those strongly against legalized abortion are very perturbed by the large number of abortions performed under unsatisfactory and unhygienic conditions by poorly trained practitioners. This results in great suffering and extensive maternal morbidity and mortality, with consequent heavy demands on all health institutions and personnel to the detriment of services and families.

82. The prevalence of discriminatory practices with respect to abortion based on income levels and socio-economic status was noted. For example, rich women cross the borders of their countries, have legal abortions abroad and return home safe, physically and legally.

83. Some participants felt that effective family planning programmes could not be readily established until families realized that too large a number of children creates difficulties for their education and that, because of declines in infant mortality, families no longer need a large number of births to have a few children survive.

84. Reference was made by some participants to allegations concerning certain practices which might amount to genocide against various ethnic and social groups. Strong condemnation of any practice amounting to genocide was voiced by the participants.

85. The problems associated with increasing life span and particularly with the extraordinarily costly methods now available for keeping persons "alive" were a subject of discussion. The question was raised as to the criteria to be adopted when deciding who should receive this costly medical care, but no specific conclusion was reached.

86. The question was also raised whether the individual should have the right to die with dignity or whether physicians should be asked to continue to utilize extraordinary means of treatment of no permanent benefit to patients with terminal illness. No consensus was reached on the matter. Some delegates expressed concern at the far-reaching implications from the ethical, emotional and scientific viewpoints of any attempt to prolong life and advised great caution in the making of such attempts.

87. Questions were also raised concerning the ethical problem of experimenting with human beings. Many feared that even with full understanding of the experiments and their significance, and even with the consent of the person concerned, these experiments are fraught with possible threats to basic human rights. On the other hand, the banning of all such activity would hamper research which might result in the saving of lives. On this widely discussed subject, an attempt should be made to formulate conditions under which controlled trials and individualized studies might be done with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

88. Studies reveal that large numbers of the world's people are hungry and undernourished. Millions of people, especially in the developing countries, are victims of malnutrition and starvation. The Declaration on Social Progress and

Development acknowledged that one of the main goals for the attainment of social progress and development is the elimination of malnutrition and hunger. Intensified international co-operation is urgently needed to help deal with the problem.

89. The Symposium noted that recent scientific data indicate that malnutrition (in utero and in the first years of life) can result in irreversible mental retardation. The social and economic cost to society of maintaining the mentally inadequate is large. In addition, the individual's human rights as well as those of the family are affected.

90. The Symposium noted that the nutrition gap is widening between rich and poor nations and between rich and poor individuals. The world is faced with shortages of food and a rapid depletion of resources. If there is to be equality in the enjoyment of human rights, various measures are required. Scientific and technological co-operation and international economic assistance can play a useful role in making the results of agricultural research and the benefits of increased agricultural efficiency available to developing countries. The creation of food reserves and improvements in the regulation of their distribution and transportation can make it possible to assist areas where shortages due to droughts or crop failures occur. Land reform can play an important role by increasing agricultural productivity and raising the general standard of living. Some participants further noted that since the right to an adequate standard of living, including food, as recognized in article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, would remain a distant ideal for many developing countries unless their economic growth was accelerated, developed nations have the responsibility to provide assistance to developing countries on favourable terms and to offer equitable and stabilized prices for their primary commodities.

91. Although the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is a fundamental human right, this right has so far not been achieved by many of the world's peoples. It has been defined as more than the reduction of preventable mortality and morbidity or the provision of institutions and professional personnel for the treatment of the sick. It is the assistance given to a person, a family or a community which helps them to attain what the World Health Organization has described as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being".

92. Health is thus dependent on a wide spectrum of measures. These concern the prevention of disease, maintenance of adequate nutrition, income and communications and the provision of education and leisure so that every individual can maintain his own health, have an adequate standard of living and enjoy the basic human rights that foster optimal development of each individual's innate capacity for growth.

93. Basically, the degree of economic, social and cultural development combined with genetic factors determine longevity. Today, nutrition is probably the most important single factor influencing health and mortality, apart from our ignorance of specific measures to control many diseases and our inability to implement fully those measures already known and understood.

94. The relationship of mortality to human rights is a constantly changing one. The past two decades have seen the emergence of many new concepts, scientific and technological breakthroughs, solutions to some problems and the emergence of others. As science and technology resolve a specific problem, it seems imperative that ways be found promptly to carry the new formulae into effect, rather than make resounding resolutions on the subject. There are often political, economic and cultural, technical and emotional reasons why action is difficult, but reasonable, rational efforts at implementation can usually lead to some success - if the problem has been properly analysed and a workable solution adopted.

C. INTERNAL MIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

95. It was generally acknowledged by the Symposium participants that in this century of increasing industrialization and population growth, there had occurred a significant intensification of internal migration. Population growth and industrial progress have combined to speed up in particular the momentum of movements from rural to urban areas. This trend is reflected in the rapid pace of urbanization. The world's urban population, it is estimated, nearly doubled between 1950 and 1970 from somewhat over 700 to more than 1,350 million. Even more rapid has been the increase in the developing regions, in which the urban population in 1970 was two and a half times as large as in 1950. Growing at an average rate of 4.6 per cent annually, the proportion of urban population in the developing countries has risen from 16 per cent in 1950 to 26 per cent in 1970.

96. It was also pointed out that with possible half of the urban growth in these countries due to the influx of migrants into the cities, the economic and social dimensions of internal migration have acquired great significance. Among the motivations to migrate, economic and social factors are known to be paramount. This second exodus, which has become a characteristic of the majority of the developing countries, is largely due to a growing demand for agricultural land and to low levels of agricultural productivity. These facts are linked to disparities in the system of land distribution and to the economic attraction derived from the growing industrialization of the cities.

97. It was recognized that to look upon these migrations only in negative terms and to conclude that the process of urbanization was detrimental to all progress would be an oversimplification of the problems involved. The transformation of a society from a predominantly rural-agricultural to an urban-industrial one has been, and is likely to continue to be, one of the basic correlates of development. From the point of view of the individual migrant, the city offers increased opportunities for economic, social and political participation as compared with rural areas. Likewise, urban residence might be conducive to changes in traditional modes of life, leading towards the emancipation of women and the adoption of more appropriate reproductive patterns. Many participants stated that the evidence also suggests that, as bad as they are, the living conditions of the rural migrant in the city are, at least in certain aspects, superior to those prevailing in the rural areas. However, these potential or relative advantages of urbanization contribute little towards resolving the more immediate and tangible effects on human rights of large-scale migration and rapid urbanization.

98. Apart from the personal and social disorganization which might be associated with migration and which finds its expression in different forms of anti-social behaviour, affecting in many instances particularly the young, rapid urbanization does create problems in a number of areas, including housing, health, nutrition, transportation, other social services and amenities and environmental conditions. Migrants unable to find adequate employment or any employment at all are forced to live in squatter settlements or inner-city slums lacking even the most basic facilities. The pressure on residential land and housing causes land speculation and excessive rents and generally tends to depress living standards further. These conditions gave rise to what in the Latin American context is often referred to as marginality in an economic, social or political sense, where the persons affected do not participate adequately in these spheres of life. Migration to the cities does not leave the rural areas unaffected: the selectivity of the migration process could not only draw away the most dynamic elements of the rural society, but in addition could divert capital and other financial resources as they are required by the rapidly growing cities.

99. The basic standard provisions of international instruments relating to the problems of internal migration recognize only freedom of movement and residence within the territory of any State as proclaimed in article 13 (1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 12 (1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200-A (XXI), annex). The right of the individual to work, including his right to make a living by his free choice of employment is recognized in article 23 of the Universal Declaration and article 6 of the International Covenant. These rights have an important bearing on matters relating to internal migration. Among international instruments concerned with the elimination of discriminatory practices should also be mentioned, in particular, article 5 of the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. It was noted, however, that at the time the Declaration was adopted, in 1948, problems of internal migration as socio-economic phenomena were not as conspicuous as in recent years. On the basis of the examination of the implications of internal migration, it seemed to many participants to be desirable to try to reaffirm and develop human rights pertaining to this area so that they fully reflect the socio-economic nature of the problems involved. It may be pertinent to note that some aspects relevant to these problems are already contained in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV)), which calls for taking into due account "the diversity of the needs of developing and developed areas, and of urban and rural areas" in social development planning (article 8) and for "measures to overcome the adverse social effects which may result from urban development and industrialization, including automation; the maintenance of a proper balance between rural and urban development, and in particular, measures designed to ensure healthier living conditions, especially in large industrial centres" (article 17 (a)), and for "comprehensive rural development schemes to raise the levels of living of the rural population and to facilitate such urban-rural relationship and population distribution as will promote balanced national development and social progress" (article 17 (c)).

100. In view of the serious problems caused by the large influx of migrants into the cities, the participants examined the possibility of a need for and

justification of coercion in the implementing of policies aimed to curb this influx. It was suggested that some provision for coercion should be made if and when it should become necessary, and that the State might deem it desirable to formulate legal norms for the regulation of migration in the interest of the general welfare of the community. These views did not, however, find favour with a majority of the participants. Another view expressed by some participants is that coercive measures might often be impracticable and indeed counterproductive. It was urged that legal or administrative impediments to freedom of movement might retard long-term development. Non-coercive measures designed to absorb the impact of internal migration and to influence the volume and direction if its flow would be more appropriate. Such measures would not infringe on the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.

101. It was suggested that measures to absorb the impact of migration and to implement and safeguard human rights should be taken in areas both of the destination of migration and its origin. Programmes for urban reform should be considered in this context. Regional planning for the location of industry, development and improvement of sanitation, housing, transportation, schools, hospitals, recreation and other social services should form part of such a programme. It should also embrace measures to end exploitation through excessive rents for housing or exorbitant prices for urban land. Laws should be revised which make possible such exploitation, allow de facto segregation to be effected through zoning and similar devices and establish unrealistically high construction standards. The improvement of squatter settlements and slum areas, as opposed to slum clearance, should be actively considered. As an alternative to the eradication of shanty towns, their improvement should be considered, if cost and urgency permit.

102. Centres of advice, recreation and training and machinery for the organization and integration of migrants should be established. These measures and programmes should be complemented by rural development. Programmes designed to make agricultural land accessible to as many persons as possible and to bring about a more equitable distribution of land are of high priority. Some participants stated that steps could be taken in some countries to set a ceiling to the amount of land an individual could own, and that a system of progressive taxation on the potential value of the land could be imposed. It was also suggested that measures should be taken to decentralize industry, giving special consideration to industries for the processing and transformation of agricultural products and production of agricultural implements. The importance of using appropriate technology both in agriculture and handicrafts was also stressed.

103. There should also be an emphasis on social investment in rural areas so that rural populations do not have to migrate to urban centres for education or health services. It was considered that educational systems in many countries have contributed to urban migration and should be reformed to emphasize skills useful for rural activities.

104. Since regions beyond major metropolitan areas are not able to offer the benefits of modern social amenities available in the cities, it was suggested

that the Symposium should propose the formulation of a right of deprived regions to adequate compensation. Such compensation would provide benefits to these regions analogous to those prevailing in the more privileged areas.

105. A special case was made for temporary migrant workers, who probably constitute one of the most deprived and exploited groups. Special provisions might be formulated to guarantee protection and services to them, including housing, schooling, sanitation and social security benefits.

106. In many instances, migration poses serious threats to the rights of the family, especially where urban wages are based on the needs of a single person and poor housing facilities discourage a worker's family from joining him.

107. The need for mass mobilization and the involvement and participation of migrants in social and political life through such means as non-governmental associations was stressed. Workers' organizations should play an important role especially in the cities; obstacles to the establishment of workers' organizations in rural areas - such as dispersed settlement, small populations and paternalistic relations in rural firms and establishments - should be removed. There should be a constant search for dynamic leaders and pressure groups to work on local authorities.

108. The participants recognized that the execution of such programmes and the implementation of the corresponding human rights would be a considerable task and would involve huge financial and organizational costs. The developing countries, which are most affected by these problems, will not always have the necessary resources. Nevertheless, the enjoyment of and participation in the basic human rights involved are fundamental issues for the countries concerned. It is therefore necessary that these policies should be integrated into national development plans in those countries. Concern for social justice within these countries and between the developed and the developing countries led participants to think that active consideration should be given to the desirability of international study and co-operation for the development of these programmes through such means as information and assistance.

109. Finally, the need to develop effective migration policies was stressed. It was observed that demographic policies affecting migration have been in use in most west European countries. These policies have been essential for implementing physical planning programmes aimed at preserving social and environmental settings conducive to the full enjoyment of life.

D. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

110. International migration has been viewed in the past as a means for bringing about a better balance between population and resources. Emigration was thought to relieve population pressure on limited resources, while in countries of immigration, an influx of people was held to permit a more efficient use of abundant resources. Although international migration may once have been as

important as these theoretical arguments imply, its present capacity for solving the population problem is negligible. In the first place, restrictions on immigration, which made their appearance around the turn of the century, have become almost universal. Secondly, the high rate of population growth, especially in recent decades, and the absolute magnitude of the numbers involved make international migration impractical on the scale required to have any significant effect on population size and growth in those countries where there is a pressure on resources.

111. Economic and political factors continue to induce large numbers of people to leave their homelands. In the last decade and even earlier, three types of international migration have become particularly important and have drawn widespread attention. The first type is the emigration, particularly from developing countries, of workers without special qualifications, who, faced with the impossibility of finding adequate and reasonably well-paid jobs in their own countries, move to the industrialized nations where employment opportunities are better and wages much higher. The problem of these migrant workers is becoming increasingly acute. The second type of international migration is one of political origin and raises the problem of refugees. This problem has, to a great extent found a solution in relation to human rights through the existing international instruments, such as the Convention of 1951 relating to the status of refugees and the institutional structure provided for in the Convention (General Assembly resolution 538 (VI)). The third type is the so-called "brain-drain" from the developing countries, involving the emigration of highly qualified workers who seek better opportunities in the more developed countries. This phenomenon has caused widespread concern, particularly in developing countries.

112. It was noted that the United Nations has not recognized any right to migrate per se. However, among Member States belonging to certain regional intergovernmental organizations, labour's freedom of movement has been established. Existing international standards relating to migration include in particular:

(a) The right to leave any country, including one's own, and to return to one's country, as recognized in article 13 (2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 12 (2), (3) and (4) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200-A (XXI), annex). This right, as in the case of others embodied in the Covenant, is recognized in article 2 as applicable to all individuals within a country "without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status".

(b) The rights to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. These rights are recognized in article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the United Nations Declaration on Territorial Asylums;

(c) The Symposium noted the close connexion between nationality and international migration and drew attention to the various conventions on nationality and statelessness. It emphasized the importance for each person to

have a nationality and in this context considered that arbitrary deprivation of nationality and the denial of the right to change one's nationality were not only contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (article 15) and other international instruments, but also caused great hardship to migrants, often negating their rights relating to migration. The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination recognizes the right to effective protection and remedies against discrimination on the grounds of race, colour or ethnic origin. Attention was also paid in this connexion to the relevant instruments of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly those of the International Labour Organisation.

113. The examination of international standards and their confrontation with actual conditions and practices led the Symposium to consider separately the following two main issues:

(a) the gaps in the acknowledged human rights of migrants, distinguishing between the freedom to migrate and the rights of the migrants in the course of their journey and in the country of immigration; and

(b) the degree of implementation of these recognized rights.

114. There is a notable contrast between developed and developing countries with respect to international migration. It was said by some participants that while in the developed countries immigrant workers frequently live in conditions inferior to those of national workers, immigrants in many of the developing countries sometimes occupy a dominant or privileged economic position. It was felt by some participants that in order to prevent an undue influence of immigrants in the latter case, consideration might have to be given to the desirability of restricting immigration. It was suggested by one participant that restrictions might also be imposed on the emigration of workers in their own interest, if living conditions in the countries of immigration prove to be below acceptable standards. Some developing countries, it was noted, have already taken steps in the direction of discouraging emigration. The Symposium pointed out that there have been cases in recent times in which immigrants have been expelled, and that there was a need in such cases to carry out necessary legal and administrative measures to ensure that immigrants suffer minimum inconvenience with regard to their living conditions and those of their families.

115. The Symposium recognized that the rights of the migrant worker in the course of his travel and in his country of destination are defined in various international conventions, particularly the covenants on human rights and the ILO conventions and recommendations. The migrant has a right to be protected at the time of his recruitment, during his journey and after his arrival in the country of immigration. Discrimination between the immigrant and the national worker, as far as wages, working conditions, social security, housing, taxes and recourse to legal remedies are concerned, is prohibited under provisions in these instruments. Although the norms which have been adopted relate to important rights, the Symposium felt that there were important gaps in the protection of the rights of the migrant worker. In particular, participants felt that the desirability of

new or more elaborate norms with respect to the following areas needed to be emphasized:

(a) The elimination of all forms of discrimination with regard to choice of employment and residence after a certain period of time and the adoption of standards relating to equality of opportunity and treatment of migrant workers. The Symposium noted that such workers were not infrequently required to take up a given employment in a particular industry and locality which deprived them of free choice of employment and residence. Although in certain circumstances, economic reasons might call for such restrictions, their continuation after a certain period of residence or employment appeared to the Symposium to be unjustifiable;

(b) The elimination of all forms of discrimination relating to opportunities for the migrant's occupation training and access to all types of education for the migrant's children. The Symposium considered that whenever possible the training and education of migrants should be such as would suit the manpower needs of their country of origin, were they to decide to return;

(c) The affirmation of the right of the migrant to be joined by his family or to be followed by his family with a minimum of delay. This right, which is a corollary of the right of the family to protection by society, implies an obligation on the Government of the country of immigration to ensure, as in the case of its own nationals, satisfactory living conditions and especially housing for the migrant and his family.

(d) The social protection of migrant workers and the harmonization of social security systems in view of the fact that differences between such systems often deprive such workers of their rights. It was pointed out by some participants that by admitting foreign workers, States took a clear responsibility vis-à-vis such persons who have a right to a certain stability in their life situation. Any migrant worker, therefore, should be advised of how long he is entitled to stay. Residence permits, if restricted in point of time, should be made renewable after a reasonable period.

(e) The easing of restrictions on the acquisition of nationality of the country of immigration. It was recognized that acquisition of citizenship was in several respects a prerequisite for the full exercise by migrant workers of their human rights in the receiving countries. National legislation seems to be excessively restrictive as far as the conditions for obtaining nationality are concerned, particularly for foreign workers and their children who have been resident for a long period in the country of immigration. It was said that while all facilities for a rapid assimilation of the migrant should be provided, the migrant should also be offered ample opportunities to maintain and develop his own cultural identity;

(f) The grant, subject to reasonable conditions, of citizenship to the migrant's children who are born in the receiving country and who opt for such citizenship on the attainment of majority.

116. Many participants were of the view that although allowance had to be made for the gap which exists between standards and actual conditions, the disparity between the human rights of migrant workers and the realization of their rights appeared to many participants to be exceptionally great. According to these participants, the reasons for this restricted exercise of their rights are inter alia: (a) a lack of knowledge of their rights on the part of the migrant workers; (b) their general lack of familiarity with conditions in the country of immigration; (c) the presence of a language barrier; and (d) fear of losing their employment and of a confrontation with public authorities. These problems are aggravated because of the absence of suitable machinery for the protection of migrant rights. Migrants often hesitate to avail themselves of existing machinery which fails to take into account their unfamiliarity with the language and the legal system of the country of residence. The Symposium recognized that several courses of action, at the national level as well as through bilateral co-operation, are open to remedy this situation. Among the most important is the establishment of migrant associations of facilities for their representation before local and national public authorities and before employers. The minimum requirements in this regard include procedures for consultation between migrant workers on the one hand and public authorities on the other. It was suggested by some participants that consideration might be given to the grant of certain civil and political rights to migrants at the local level. Foreign workers should as far as possible be given equal rights in trade unions, and it would be desirable if they could be elected to union leadership. Considerable improvements in the implementation of migrant rights could be effected through joint efforts by the Governments of the countries of emigration and immigration. Traditionally, negotiations on the status of migrants have been dominated by economic considerations, and questions relating to the implementation of human rights have been largely neglected. Several participants felt that the necessary co-operation and negotiation between the countries involved would be greatly facilitated if an international agreement were formulated establishing the necessary basic principles and guidelines. Within the context of these agreements, bilateral negotiations could be conducted between Governments. The Symposium was of the view that a suitable international body might be entrusted with the function of making available its advice and good offices for the protection of the human rights of migrant workers.

117. The Symposium recognized that the measures previously referred to, which have the object of promoting the human rights of migrant workers, should be supplemented by intensive educational efforts. Before leaving their country or upon arrival in the country of destination, migrants should receive the information and instruction necessary for their rapid integration into and active participation in their new communities. The people of the country of immigration should also be informed about the problems posed by immigrants, their contributions to the nation and the need to help them take their proper place in the community.

118. The Symposium also recognized that the migration of workers is to a great extent the result of economic conditions and particularly of disparities in levels of living between countries of immigration and emigration. Although the

precise contribution of migration to the development of the receiving countries is not known, there seems to be little doubt that it has made a considerable contribution. The same is not necessarily true for the countries of emigration. Although the emigration of workers might alleviate population pressures, there are increasing doubts in such countries about its benefits. Many participants were of the view that a change in the international distribution of labour by creating additional employment opportunities in countries of emigration through investments and joint ventures provides a more acceptable solution for the developing countries. Although the economic and other advantages of emigration for the individual worker are substantial, the displacement involved in migration causes certain disadvantages to the parties involved, even if the rights of the migrant are well protected.

119. While the principle of the right of emigration was not questioned, the view was expressed by some participants that under certain conditions this individual right might have to be made subject to certain conditions. Such a situation, it was argued, could exist in the case of the "brain drain". The emigration of highly qualified and trained personnel, usually educated at great cost to the society, especially where education is free, signifies not only a loss of investment in human capital, but also deprives the country of the substantial contribution these workers could make to its development. The impact of the "brain drain" on the economic and social development of a developing country can be substantial. Although some participants suggested that there might be arguments in favour of some degree of control, it was recognized that it would not be advisable to prohibit this type of emigration.

120. It was suggested that more attention should be given to alternative ways of discouraging the emigration of highly trained specialists and scientists. One such scheme, addressed to those going for study abroad, would be to introduce, with the co-operation of both Governments involved, a legally binding contract for those students to return after the completion of their studies. Since the agreement would be voluntary, this solution would not affect human rights. It was, however, doubted whether such a scheme would be effective, as it is mostly the children of the rich, not in need of financial assistance, who go for study abroad. The strengthening of education, the undertaking of manpower planning and other similar measures taken in the country of emigration were stressed by several participants as one way of reducing the brain drain.

III. IMPLICATIONS OF POPULATION TRENDS FOR THE FORMULATION AND EXERCISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

121. While participants of the Symposium agreed in broad and general terms that there was some relationship between the inadequate realization of human rights and the present population situation, there was considerable disagreement on the importance of the population factor in explaining the poverty and misery of the mass of the people, especially but not exclusively in the third world.

122. The disagreement centred largely on the question of the extent to which rapid population growth is an obstacle to development. This disagreement was important in view of the almost unanimous opinion that the full realization of human rights, especially social, cultural and political, cannot be achieved in conditions of poverty and ignorance. The attainment of human dignity and the fulfilment of human personality and its potential can only be realized when a person is not haunted by fears of unemployment, is not stricken with disease and has at least the minimum necessities of life for himself and his family. Human rights are no longer conceived in a passive sense as requiring the State to abstain from certain acts and forms of behaviour. They are understood in a broad and dynamic sense, in which the attainment of minimum standards of economic, social and cultural life is basic.

123. The variety of historical and cultural backgrounds, of political, social and economic structures and of situations relating to population have led to differences in interpretation of the interrelationship between population problems, human rights and development. This in turn accounts for different approaches in this field, which are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

124. One view receiving wide support was that whatever the socio-economic and political systems might be, excessive rates of population growth constitute a serious impediment for the effective exercise of basic human rights and should therefore be checked by family planning measures short of coercion. At the same time positive measures should be adopted to integrate such measures into development programmes with full regard for all human rights.

125. Another view was that although there was an interrelation among population problems, denial of human rights and socio-economic structures, the best solution would consist in changing those structures in the direction of a just social and political order through participation of such voluntary groups as trade unions and youth movements. Simultaneously, measures should be adopted to cut an excessive rate of population increase.

126. While conceding that population increases render the task of development more difficult, still another view stated that the real causes of under-development are to be found largely in the nature of the international economic and political system, with its precursors of colonialism and imperialism. This system, which has been responsible for the exploitation of many countries, is still draining off their resources to the richer countries. The greatest gains for human rights would therefore follow from fundamental changes in the structure of international

relations and a reorientation of development strategies towards greater self-reliance, autonomy and selective disengagement from the present economic system on the part of developing countries. Those who held this view were of the opinion that even if rapid declines in fertility could be achieved, it is unlikely that the conditions of the mass of people would improve appreciably unless at the same time these necessary structural transformations are effected.

127. Many participants held the view that the international community had a duty to strive towards an equitable and just distribution and use of world resources, including capital. Such a distribution of goods and services is necessary to make human rights a living reality, particularly in developing countries. It would facilitate the use of resources in developing States for further development and increase their industrial and agricultural productivity.

128. The imbalance in per capita consumption of non-renewable natural resources between developed and developing countries was noted as aggravating disparities. The highly industrialized nations are depleting the world's non-renewable resources at a staggering rate, apart from environmental consequences, this process causes a continuous rapid increase in the price of commodities vital for the development of the third world. As the latter can scarcely compete with the richer countries for these resources, its development is further retarded.

129. None of the participants argued that the adoption of population policies is an end in itself. It was agreed that they must form part of a broader, credible strategy of human development and full implementation of human rights. Indeed many participants argued that population policies should seek fertility control by paying more attention to social and economic changes in which rational choices in family planning become both desirable and feasible.

130. In many countries, family planning has come about as a result of a transformation of social structures and institutions, and particularly as a result of the improvement in the status of women. In other words, population control has come about as a consequence of social progress and development. The integration of population policies into strategies of general development, which demonstrate both a will and ability to improve the general human condition, may also help to allay the suspicions of an resistance to fertility control that now exist especially in the third world.

131. The Symposium discussed whether it was desirable to adopt a new charter of declaration on human rights in the context of population problems and policies, since many profound changes have occurred in the international community since the drawing up of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Many participants pointed out that the Declaration illustrates the impact of values for which the free nations fought the Second World War. It was also drafted and adopted at a time when many nations were still under colonial rule. Some members went on to state that the different human rights relating to population problems should be listed in this context. The task of reviewing the relevant international standards with a view to their clarification should be entrusted to the United Nations organs competent in the field of human rights, in close co-operation with the Population Commission

and the specialized agencies and regional bodies concerned. Some participants emphasized, however, that it was more important at this stage to concentrate on the implementation of the rights that were already incorporated in existing declarations. In their view, the elaboration of further rights by the United Nations before effective strategies of action were devised to realize the rights which the international community had already proclaimed during a period of 25 years, would damage the credibility of the United Nations and might result in widespread cynicism regarding the whole process of the formulation of human rights. Viewed against the declarations and other instruments of the United Nations and various international agencies which have set forth the inalienable and fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, the disparity between aspiration and reality is, according to one participant, so overwhelming as to make the formulation and recognition of such declarations "sarcastic".

132. Throughout the course of the Symposium, there was concern among some participants about the possibilities and dangers of States using coercion. Most participants considered that coercive policies were unjustified and would amount to a serious denial of important human rights. Certain individual rights are so fundamental and inalienable, such as the right to life, freedom from degrading treatment and freedom of conscience, that any interference with them would be intolerable. Other participants argued that it is impossible to take a categorical position on this matter. There is first the problem of defining coercion. Some forms of action, like compulsory sterilization, might well be regarded as unjustifiable coercion, but it might be otherwise with fiscal and other measures which penalize parents of large families. Secondly, coercion might be applied in different areas, and it is impossible to say that it is unjustified under all circumstances. Some participants were not willing to agree, for example, that a State is never justified in restricting or qualifying the right of movement or emigration in order to mitigate problems of unplanned urbanization or to deal with losses that arise from the "brain drain". Thirdly, some participants felt that it is possible to exaggerate the conflict of interests between the individual and the State. In many countries, it is realistic to look at the State as interposing itself between the individual and powerful forces, both external and internal, which are exploiting national resources for the benefit of a privileged few. Nevertheless, the Symposium was unanimous in its view that it is of the utmost importance to insist that all population policies must pay particular attention to avoid violation of the fundamental rights of the individual, family and community.

133. Several participants stressed the importance of the inherent dignity of all members of the human family. Population growth, greater industrialization and increasing urbanization should not be allowed to lead to the "insectification" of man. People everywhere should have greater and more direct participation in decision-making at local levels. Appropriate means of ensuring real participation of all citizens should be available at all levels of the national life.

134. Population and development policies must seek to restore to people the full dignity of their personality by providing for a more meaningful life in which important decisions concerning themselves are made with their consent and participation. Some participants cautioned against a situation where basic human rights might be trampled on in a single-minded pursuit of economic development.

135. There are important implications also for the manner in which policies are formulated and implemented. Organizations of marginal people must be promoted and mobilized as important agencies for generating awareness on the part of their members and for the elimination of marginal conditions in their communities.

136. On the international level, so it was suggested, it is necessary to redefine the set of basic principles underlying "models" of development to which the peoples of the world can aspire, particularly those of the third world. Models of prosperity as achieved by many industrial societies might not be relevant to every country, since they may not correspond to the basic values of all peoples. New models must emphasize social and cultural values which are important to the lives of diverse communities.

IV. ROLES OF THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE LIGHT OF POPULATION TRENDS

137. The Symposium was in agreement that community and State action in the population field should be formulated and implemented within a broad framework of economic and social policy, and that population problems and their solutions should be considered in the context of over-all development policies.

138. It was generally recognized that the State should play an active role in several respects in order to resolve or mitigate problems, including population problems, which in many countries make it very difficult to ensure the realization of economic, social and cultural rights. In that connexion, mention was made of various resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in particular General Assembly resolution 2211 (XXI) on population growth and economic development, which acknowledged "the sovereignty of nations to formulate and promote their own population policies". Several particpants stressed their opinion that the State had the right as well as the obligation to formulate and carry out population policies with optimal targets, as part of a global attack against under-development and poverty. It was said that the individual has a corresponding right to expect that the State will take such an active role in achieving the realization of his economic, social and cultural rights.

139. Several participants emphasized the need for the State, especially in developing countries, to provide adequate education in population matters, adjusted to local traditions, and to carry out an effective policy of public information, since these are measures which advance, without coercion, the development of an adequate individual and social consciousness of population matters.

140. Some participants attached great importance to the training of skilled personnel in the field of population and generally to the improvement of public administration in developing countries. In their view, the State should give high priority to measures designed to achieve these objectives.

141. Participants recognized that the State, which is primarily responsible for the achievement of social progress and development in each country, has a resultant responsibility to provide adequate health medical services to which the whole population has free access. The State thus has an obligation to adopt the necessary measures in this respect. The State is the only body with the capacity to undertake all necessary measures to that end. The view was expressed by several participants that the State also has a responsibility to make sure that safe and effective means of family planning are offered to all persons on the basis of adequate information in accordance with the recommendations contained in international instruments, particularly the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV)). Several participants stressed the need to undertake all measures, including clear and objective information, so that individuals can effectively exercise their free choice in respect to family planning matters. The view of these participants was that the State should take

appropriate measures to prevent all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on socio-economic status, as regards the availability of such means and their access to the people.

142. The role of law as a means of changing attitudes on population problems was discussed. One view was that the impact of law on behavioural patterns and mores is often exaggerated, and that legislation is only a subsidiary means of effecting social changes, especially as regards deeply rooted family and cultural traditions. Other participants felt that the role of the law may be significant in various fields connected even indirectly with population matters, for instance, family relationships, minimum age and other requirements for marriage, the legal status of married and unmarried women, inheritance, tax policy and family subsidies and allowances. Reference was further made to various forms of direct intervention which the State might contemplate in order to correct undesirable population trends and structures, for instance, laws and regulations relating to health, mortality, methods of family planning, abortion, sterilization and mobility.

143. While acknowledging the central role of competent public authorities in advancing economic and social rights through adequate population policies, many participants stressed the obligation of the State, in implementing such policies, to ensure respect for civil and political rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international covenants on human rights and other relevant international instruments, as well as widely recognized principles of general international law. Some of the most fundamental principles mentioned in that connexion concern the right to life, liberty of the person, protection against torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, the right not to be subjected to scientific or medical experiments without free and informed consent and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

144. A number of participants attached great importance to the duty of the State to prevent discrimination on the grounds recognized by the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other United Nations instruments, while attempting to resolve population problems and to carry out population policies. Various measures might prove necessary to ensure that all classes of persons, regardless of income and socio-economic status, have equal access to the relevant education and social services. It was also said that care should be taken to adapt information on population, including family planning, to the needs of linguistic and vulnerable groups, such as rural populations, racial or religious groups, migrant workers and indigenous populations, and to protect them effectively against practices derogatory to their dignity or dangerous to their health. Some participants felt that the use of financial and other incentives in the implementation of population policies, especially family planning policies, should be subject to strict control in order to prevent abuses to the prejudice of less privileged classes.

145. It was generally agreed that some of the most effective guarantees of human rights and fundamental freedoms were those which could be built into the machinery established to formulate and implement population policies. In that connexion, many participants considered it essential that such policies should be elaborated, carried out and reviewed periodically with the active participation and under the control of all persons and groups involved or of their representatives. This is i

accordance with the principles relating to the right to take part in the conduct of public and governmental affairs recognized in article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 25 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights. In the view of some participants, it is particularly important to promote the participation of the peoples concerned in the activities of local institutions competent in the field of population. It was also felt that decisions taken by public authorities affecting individual or family rights should be arrived at only after a thorough and fair hearing before persons most directly concerned, and after these persons have been informed in clear language of all aspects of the matters at issue.

146. Stress was placed by many participants on the fundamental need for an effective system of remedies and control by judicial or other competent, independent and impartial authorities as regards decisions or measures taken in implementation of population policies. It was felt that the scientific or technical character of the reasons which might be adduced to justify decisions or measures complained against should never constitute a ground for denying to the persons concerned or to their representatives the benefit of adequate appeals procedures. It is necessary for the State to facilitate access to such procedures, regardless of educational levels and financial means, through assistance measures and legal and technical advice. The proceedings before appeals bodies should be conducted in accordance with the principles and safeguards set forth in relevant United Nations instruments, such as article 14 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It was suggested that studies might be requested from international organizations on questions which might arise concerning the adaptation of certain traditional recourse procedures to the characteristics of issues involved in human rights and population.

147. Several participants felt that non-governmental organizations such as trade unions, women's associations, youth movements and religious bodies, could, because of their direct contact with the people, play a significant role in the formulation and implementation of population policies and in the carrying out of public information activities. It is important that such voluntary organizations should have access to juridical institutions so that they can fulfil the important function of controlling public authorities through a close watch on the implementation of population policies and by expressing public disapproval of shortcomings and abuses.

148. It was also considered important that non-governmental organizations should have full access to the appropriate juridical channels in order to fill the gap caused by the frequent hesitancy of individuals to claim their rights.

V. ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN FORMULATING HUMAN RIGHTS CONNECTED WITH POPULATION MATTERS

149. It was recognized by all participants that international organizations and the United Nations system in particular have a vital role to play in assisting Governments to implement their population policies as an integral part of their efforts to enlarge the general welfare and the human rights of their citizens. International agencies can help promote a broad consensus on the nature of population problems and on what ought to be done about them.

150. There was general agreement on the types of assistance on population matters as they relate to human rights which international organizations might be requested by Governments to render:

(a) Collecting and analysing demographic data (including census-taking registration of vital statistics and publication of laws, judicial decisions and administrative decrees, national and regional);

(b) Developing a population policy as an integral part of the national development plan, setting national population targets wherever possible and identifying the measures necessary to meet those targets with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in international instruments of the United Nations;

(c) Providing family planning information and services to all persons who want them in accordance with the principles set forth in resolution XVIII of the Tehran International Conference on Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 2442 (XXIII)), Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 A (LII) and other relevant provisions;

(d) Including material on family life and population dynamics at all levels of the educational system, including adult education;

(e) Research on various population problems. This should include research by competent United Nations organs on the interrelationship between population trends and human rights;

(f) Training of the personnel needed for all aspects of population policy, such as demographers, lawyers, doctors, health and social workers, educators and administrators; such training to impart an adequate knowledge of human rights according to international standards and an awareness of the human rights aspect of population problems;

(g) Reviewing national legislation in the light of both population policy and human rights;

(h) Establishing or strengthening national institutions to develop, implement and evaluate population policies and programmes, and ensuring that such functions

are carried out with the active participation and under the control of the persons and groups involved or their representatives. Reviewing judicial and administrative procedures to ensure that they afford effective protection of all the human rights connected with population problems, including protection against all forms of discrimination.

151. The performance of these and other services to Governments will require a significant increase in budgetary support for the relevant programmes at the national, regional and international level.

152. The Symposium recommended that an international agency be entrusted with the representation of migrants for the protection of their rights, vis-à-vis national authorities.

153. Most participants felt that it will not be necessary to create a new international agency to deal with population problems. The need is rather for strengthening existing institutions and for better co-ordination of their activities. There is need for closer co-operation among UNDP, the Population Division, the Human Rights Division, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, UNFPA, UNICEF, the regional economic commissions, the specialized agencies, particularly ILO, WHO, FAO, UNESCO, the IBRD and the regional development banks, and the regional demographic centres. Non-United Nations intergovernmental agencies, such as the European Community, the OECD, and regional organizations in the developing world, also have an important role to play in multilateral population programmes. Learned societies such as the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and the Committee on International Co-ordination for National Research in Demography (CICRED) also have useful parts to play.

154. It was generally considered that effective international efforts concerning population in its relationship with human rights should also involve non-governmental organizations to the fullest extent. Some private agencies might be permitted by Governments to carry out certain population programmes. International professional associations such as those of doctors, lawyers, demographers, economists and social workers can make significant contributions, especially in the elucidation of the human rights aspects of population matters. Much more should be done to involve religious organizations to whom millions of persons look for guidance on questions of private morality and family life.

155. Some participants were of the view that the need for action to reduce fertility is particularly urgent in certain countries because of the enormous momentum built into current population growth rates. In the opinion of these participants, international agencies should assist those Governments on request to carry out voluntary family planning programmes as an integral part of national development plans and with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Other participants stressed that in their view international organizations should formulate and carry out integrated and comprehensive programmes in the field of population without singling out any particular aspect.

156. It was generally agreed by the Symposium that the United Nations should promote population policies not as an end in themselves, but as a means of advancing the great objectives of the Organization, namely, peace, economic and social development and human rights. It was also recognized that development can do as much for population policy as population policy can do for development. Measures to improve, for example, education, health services, nutrition, employment and women's and children's rights are desirable not only in their own right; they also assist in the solution of population problems. Therefore, the United Nations and other international organizations should be especially concerned with development, population policies and human rights as interrelated matters of common interest to all nations. All aspects should be integrated in a comprehensive international approach towards the achievement of international co-operation in solving population problems and in harmonizing the actions of nations for the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

Annex I

AGENDA

1. Opening addresses

2. Appointment of officers

3. Adoption of agenda

4. Fertility and human rights

5. Mortality and human rights

6. Internal migration and human rights

7. International migration and human rights

8. The implication of population trends for the formulation and exercise of human rights

9. The roles of the community, State, international organizations and other institutions in safeguarding and promoting human rights in the light of population trends

10. Formulation of concepts and other action required to safeguard and promote human rights in the light of population trends

11. Adoption of the report

12. Closing of the symposium

Annex II

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Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Title/Author
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/1	Provisional agenda
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/2	Annotated agenda
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/3	United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and various population questions (United Nations Division of Human Rights)
	Chapter I - United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and fertility
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/3/Add.1	Chapter II - United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and mortality and morbidity
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/3/Add.2	Chapter III - United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and migration
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/4	Fertility and human rights (B. Duffy and F. Murphy)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/5	Human Rights and mortality (Ion Filipescu)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/6	Protection of human rights and measures aimed at reduction of morbidity and mortality in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (S. Y. Chikin)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/7	The implications for internal migration of the exercise of human rights (O. Cornblit)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/8	Population and international migration: the case of migrant workers (Y. Ghai)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/9	Possible impact of population trends on concept of human rights and values (V. Sara-Lafosse)

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Symbol	Title/Author
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/10	/Cancelled/
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/11	/Cancelled/
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/12	Population and human rights in Latin America: selected issues (Economic Commission for Latin America)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/13	Population and human rights in Africa (Economic Commission for Africa)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/14	Population and human rights: education and information (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/15	Human rights and population (aide-mémoire) (International Labour Organisation)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/16	A brief summary of the world population situation (United Nations Population Division)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/17	Le status légal de la femme musulmane dans plusieurs pays du Moyen-Orient (Economic Commission for Western Asia)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/18	Health and human rights (World Health Organization)
E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/19	Quelques réflexions sur les relations entre la population et les droits de l'homme (J. Patrnogic)
Conference room papers	
	Population and human rights: synopsis (C. A. van Peursen)
	Population and human rights (S. Y. Chikin)
Background papers	
E/CONF.60/BP/1	Demographic trends in the world and its major regions, 1950-1970 (United Nations Population Division)

Background papers	Title/Author
E/CONF.60/BP/3	World and regional population prospects (United Nations Population Division)
E/CONF.60/BP/11/Rev.1	Women's rights and fertility (Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs)
E/CONF.60/BP/14	Health and family planning (World Health Organization)
ST/HR/1	Human rights: a compilation of international instruments of the United Nations (United Nations Division of Human Rights)